Docket No. END-5214



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nobis, Rudolph et al.

Serial No.: 10/674,235

Art Unit: Not assigned

Filed

: September 29, 2003

Examiner: Not assigned

For

: ACTUATION MECHANISM FOR FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPIC DEVICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

November 25 2003 (Date of Deposit)

Linda F. Hansen

(Name of person signing, applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

November 25 2003

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

igties In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information
Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months
of the filing date of the above-identified national application
(other than a continued prosecution application under
§1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the
national stage of the above identified application as set forth
in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action
on the merits of the above-identified application, or before
the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a
request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional
fee is required.
The accordance with \$1 120(a) this Information
☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information
Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with   the
first or second After Final Submission, therefore:
Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e)
(attached); or
☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-
0750/ / the fee of $$180.00$ as set forth
in §1.17(p).
☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information
_
Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth
in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final
Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or
an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is
accompanied by one of:
Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e)
(attached); or

Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of $$180.00$ as set forth in $$1.17(p)$ .						
☐ In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information  Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee.  Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).  ☐ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.						
Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:						
In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.						
If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.						
☐ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.						
The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:						

Attached are copies of search report(s) from
corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on th
attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.
Attached are the following non-published pending
patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are
listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/END 5214/GSG.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry S. Gressel Reg. No. 34, 342

Attorney for Applicants

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(513) 337-3535

DATED: November 25, 2003

NOV 2 8 2003 WINDER TRADE MARKET LUNder the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)
Sheet of

a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.				
Application Number	10/674,235			
Filing Date	September 29, 2003			
First Named Inventor	Rudolph Nobis et al.			
Group Art Unit	Not assigned			
Examiner Name	Not assigned			
Attorney Docket Number	END-5214			
Filing Date First Named Inventor Group Art Unit Examiner Name	September 29, 2003 Rudolph Nobis et al. Not assigned Not assigned			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Cit e No	U.S. Patent Document		N	Date of Publication	Pages, Columns, Lines,
Examiner Initials		1	nd Code <sup>2</sup> if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	of Cited Document	where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		US 5,431,675		Nicholas et al.	07-11-1995	ALL
		US 5,483,952		Aranyi	01-16-1996	ALL
		US 5,562,655		Mittelstadt et al.	10-08-1996	ALL
		US 5,810,876		Kelleher	09-22-1998	ALL
		US 5,827,323		Klieman et al.	10-27-1998	ALL
		US 5,830,231		Geiges, Jr.	11-03-1998	ALL
		US 6,162,209		Gobron et al.	12-19-2000	ALL
						ALL
						ALL
						ALL
						ALL
						ALL

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant	
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number⁴	KindCode <sup>5</sup>	Applicant of Cited Document	mm-dd-yyyy	passages or relevant figures appear	Τ <sup>6</sup>
							ALL	
							ALL	
							ALL	
							ALL	
							ALL	
		<del>                                     </del>	······································				ALL	

Examiner	Date
Signature	Considered

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.